

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the title of the invention with the following amended title of the invention:

DIFFUSION BRAZING METHOD AND BRAZED STRUCTURE USING A DIFFUSION SUPPRESSING LAYER

Please REPLACE the paragraph [0007] with the following amended paragraph [0007]:

[0007] As described in JAP-2003-145290-A, the corrosion resistance of the braze joint is improved by the Fe atom diffusion suppressing layer composed of the Ni-Cr alloy containing Cr. However, if the Ni concentration of the alloy is higher than a certain level, the corrosion resistance is reduced to the contrary. Particularly, this tendency is remarkable under highly corrosive conditions. As a result of intensive studies as to the cause of this tendency, the inventor of the present invention has found that, if the Ni content of the braze joint is increased, dendrite is liable to grow in the braze joint and, therefore, Cu-rich portions (Ni-poor portions) are formed in the braze joint by segregated solidification. The Cu-rich portions are liable to be selectively corroded, so that a passive layer of a Cr oxide film does not effectively function. This deteriorates the corrosion resistance of the braze joint. On the basis of these findings, the inventor has made intensive studies of a method for forming a braze joint that is homogeneous in composition and structure without segregated solidification of the braze joint, thereby accomplishing various preferred embodiments of the present invention.

Please REPLACE the paragraph [0046] with the following amended paragraph [0046]:

[0046] The clad materials thus prepared were each bent into an L-shape with the diffusion suppressing layer located outward, whereby L-shaped parts were prepared. Then, as shown in Fig. 5, temporary assemblies were respectively prepared by sandwiching different composition

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types of brazing material foils 24 between ~~one-side portions~~ of the diffusion suppressing layers 23 on the base plates 22 of pairs of such L-shaped parts 21, and then kept heated at brazing temperatures in vacuum for brazing. The brazing material foils 24 were composed of Ni-Cu alloys containing different amounts of Ni and the balance of Cu as shown in Table 1. The Ni contents and thicknesses of the brazing material foils 24 and the Cr contents and thicknesses of the diffusion suppressing layers 23 are collectively shown in Table 1.